NOT EVEN THE TONE OF THE
WIND CAN SOOTHE MY HEART...

ファイアーエムブレム

★聖戦の系譜⑨

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大沢美月

...IT'S NOT THE CHEERFUL MELODY HE USUALLY PLAYS.
PERHAPS I WAS TOO HARD ON HIM...
EVEN I...
CAN'T GRASP EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING ON AROUND ME RIGHT NOW.

DIADORA ...
WHERE COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE RIGHT NOW?
POOF
POOF
POOF
KINGDOM OF GRANDBELL.
THE CAPITAL, BARHARA.

TO THINK THAT I AM THE DAUGHTER OF THE LATE PRINCE!
NOT ONLY THAT, I'M EVEN GOING TO MARRY DUKE ALVIS!
I'M CERTAIN THAT THERE IS NO HAPPIER MOMENT FOR THE KING THAN RIGHT NOW.
ONCE UPON A TIME...THERE LIVED A PRINCESS WHO WAS LOCKED AWAY BY AN EVIL SORCERER.
BUT ONE DAY, A BRAVE KNIGHT APPEARED TO SAVE THE PRINCESS...

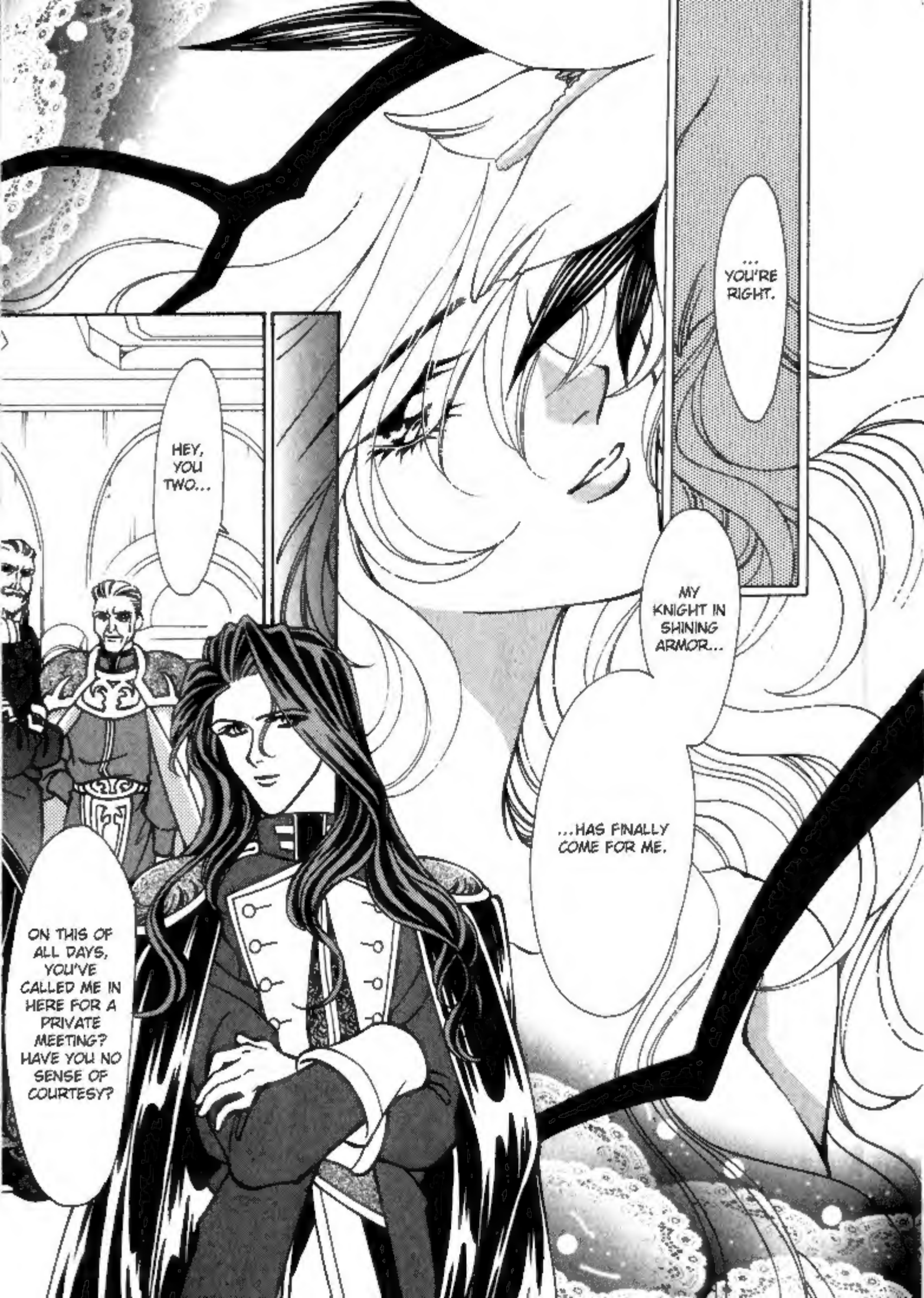
"PLEASE ACCEPT LORD ALVIS' MARRIAGE PROPOSAL!"

"I BEG OF YOU, MISS DIADORA!!"

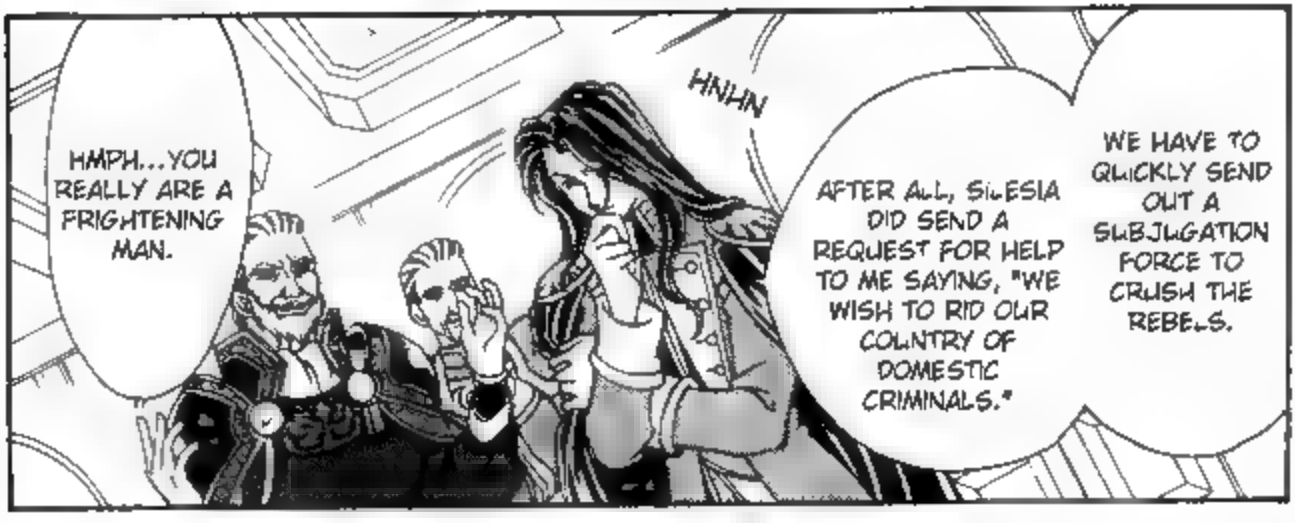
HE LOST HIS PARENTS AT A YOUNG AGE.
THEN AT THE SAME TIME, HE WAS FORCED TO BE APPOINTED AS THE HEAD OF HOUSE VELTHOMER.
AND NOW... HIS ONLY REMAINING FAMILY, HIS YOUNGER BROTHER, IS IN THE HANDS OF THOSE TRAITORS...
YET, YOU ARE THE FIRST PERSON TO COME ALONG AND FINALLY BRING HIM PEACE OF MIND.
HE RESCUED YOU WHEN YOU HAD LOST ALL YOUR MEMORIES. SO PLEASE RETURN THE FAVOR...
LORD ALVIS IS SO KIND...
I TOO...
DO NOT WISH TO SEE SADNESS ON LORD ALVIS' FACE...

Pomph
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MY DEAR? WHY THE LONG FACE?
IT'S NOT A LOOK ONE USUALLY HAS ON SUCH A JOYOUS DAY.
OH IT'S NOTHING, GRANDFATHER.
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT SOME THINGS...

COME NOW, LET'S SEE THAT BEAUTIFUL SMILE.
YOUR HAPPINESS IS THE ONE THING THAT GIVES ME HOPE FOR THE FEW YEARS I HAVE LEFT REMAINING IN MY LIFE.
I STILL HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THE SHOCK I HAD THE VERY MOMENT ALVIS BROUGHT YOU TO ME AND SAID THAT HE WANTED TO MARRY YOU.
EVEN THOUGH I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE KURT CONCEIVED YOU.
I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY FOR HIS SAKE TOO.
WITH ALVIS AS YOUR HUSBAND I CAN BE ASSURED OF THAT...HE IS A FINE KNIGHT.
I COULD HEAR THE CALLING OF THE CREST OF NARGA, THE SYMBOL THAT YOU HAD HIDDEN BENEATH YOUR CIRCLET.
THERE IS NO MISTAKING IT. THE POWER OF NARGA FLOWS THROUGH YOUR VEINS. THE POWER OF THE HEIM FAMILY.


...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
HEY, YOU TWO...
MY KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR...
...HAS FINALLY COME FOR ME.
ON THIS OF ALL DAYS, YOU'VE CALLED ME IN HERE FOR A PRIVATE MEETING? HAVE YOU NO SENSE OF COURTESY?

JUST AS I HAD ANTICIPATED THANK GOODNESS DACCAR IS AS FOOLISH AS I HAD PERCEIVED HIM TO BE.
I WONDER IF HE HAS ANY IDEA THAT HE IS JUST DIGGING HIS OWN GRAVE...WHAT A FOOL.
HAHA, YOU HAVE A POINT THERE.
WELL, I THOUGHT YOU WOULD AT LEAST WANT TO HEAR THE CURRENT SITUATION.
WELL FOR THAT, I AM GRATEFUL
HMMM...I SEE. SO DUKE DACCAR HAS FINALLY DECIDED TO COOPERATE WITH US.


HMPH...YOU REALLY ARE A FRIGHTENING MAN.
HNHN
AFTER ALL, SILESIA DID SEND A REQUEST FOR HELP TO ME SAYING, "WE WISH TO RID OUR COUNTRY OF DOMESTIC CRIMINALS."
WE HAVE TO QUICKLY SEND OUT A SUBJUGATION FORCE TO CRUSH THE REBELS.

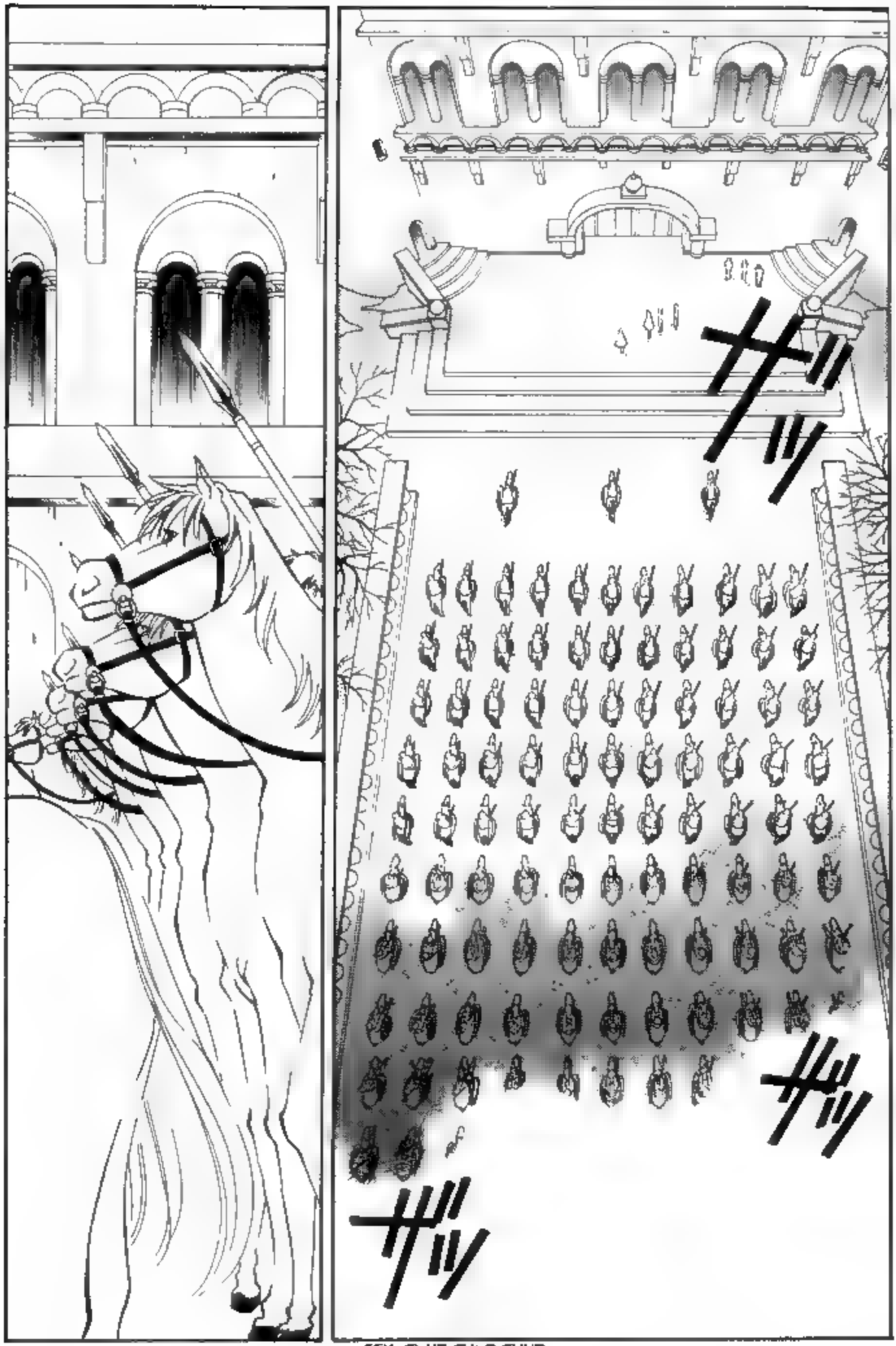
CLICK
IS THAT SO?
THANK GOODNESS YOU ARE ON OUR SIDE.
IF YOU WERE PART OF THE PRINCE'S FACTION, WE WOULD PROBABLY BE LABELED AS TRAITORS RIGHT NOW.
YES, PLEASE DO.
WE'LL SAVE THE DETAILS REGARDING THE SUBJUGATION FOR ANOTHER DAY.
WELL, WE BETTER GET GOING.
BECAUSE VERY SOON I WILL NO LONGER BE ALONE
...BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW

ZAXON CASTLE
GRANDBELL SAID THEY WOULD SEND TWICE THE AMOUNT OF REINFORCE-MENTS THAT I HAD ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR!
WITH THAT MANY TROOPS AT MY DISPOSAL MY WISH WILL FINALLY COME TO FRUITION, PAMELA!
B ..BUT, MY LORD!

ALSO ABOUT YOUR PLAN, LORD DACCAR.
IT'S JUST...AS A KNIGHT...I APPROVE OF IT, BUT...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT ALLOWING SUCH A LARGE CONTINGENT OF FOREIGN TROOPS INTO OUR COUNTRY...
COULD POTENTIALLY COME BACK TO HAUNT US?
IF THEY WEAKEN THE ENEMY AND PREVENT HEAVY LOSSES TO OUR OWN TROOPS, ISN'T THAT WHAT WE WANT?
WHY WOULD I WORRY ABOUT MY OWN STEPPING STONES?
IF YOU CAN'T EVEN COMPREHEND THAT, IT JUST GOES TO SHOW WHY YOU'RE ONLY SECOND BEST.
WHAT DOES "FAIRNESS" MATTER IN WINNING A WAR?
SO WHAT IF IT'S "UNDER-HANDED"?
SPARE ME YOUR NAIVETY

IF WE DON'T ACHIEVE VICTORY WE WILL BE NOTHING MORE THAN CRIMINALS.
YOU BETTER STOP LISTENING TO YOUR HEART... PAMELA.

SAILANE CASTLE



SFX. THUD THUD THUD

THAT REMINDS ME, ABOUT KEEPING IN THOVE IN CHECK...
THEY'VE FINALLY BEGUN TO MAKE SUSPICIOUS MOVEMENTS.
I HAVE SUMMONED ALL THE PEGASUS KNIGHTS UNDER MY COMMAND TO FLY OVER HERE FROM THE CAPITAL.
AH, I SEE, GOOD WORK.
STARTING FROM TODAY, PLEASE COMMAND THEM AS YOU SEE FIT
KEEP THEM IN CHECK? KEEP DREAMING.
THEY ARE THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO ABSOLUTELY HAVE NO CLUE HOW TO HANDLE THE POWER THEY HAVE
LEVIN ...
NO SUR-PRISES THERE.

THANKS TO YOU GUYS, IF EVEN ONE INNOCENT CIVILIAN COMES TO HARM BECAUSE OF YOUR ACTIONS--
PRINCE!
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT ...!!

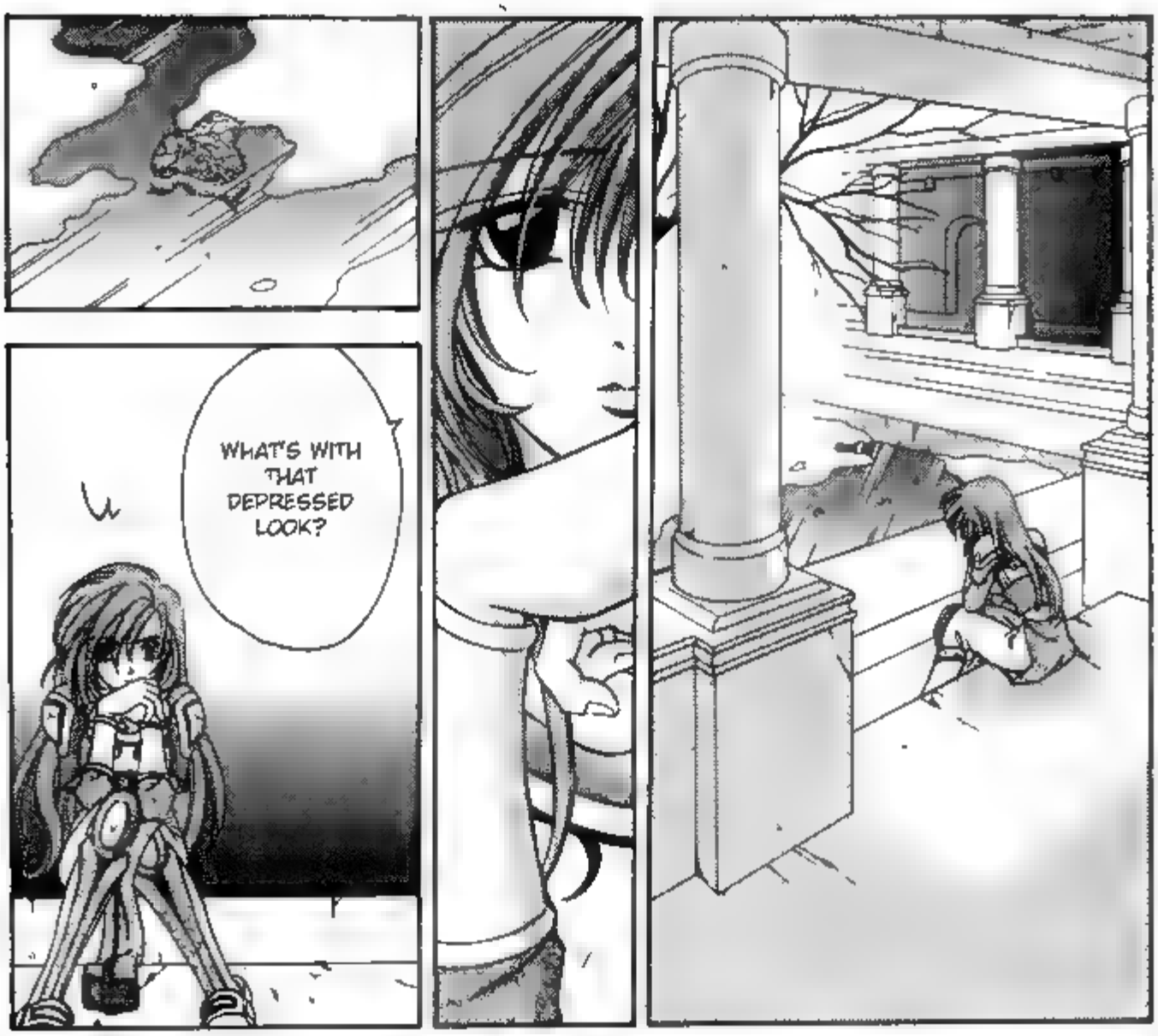
PRINCE... THAT'S...
EVEN THIS SMALL ACTION WHERE YOU SUMMONED YOUR PEGASUS KNIGHTS HERE,
IF THIS KEEPS MY UNCLES IN CHECK, THAT'S ALL FINE AND DANDY. BUT WHAT IF THE OPPOSITE HAPPENS? WHAT IF THIS INCITES THEM TO TAKE ACTION? WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

ISN'T THAT WHY WE ARE HERE? TO PREVENT THAT FROM HAPPENING?
I HAVE FAITH IN OUR CAPABILITY TO DO SO!

IT'S USELESS TALKING TO YOU

YOU'RE REALLY GETTING ON MY NERVES, YOU KNOW THAT?
AH! WAIT A MOMENT, LEVIN!
PRINCE ...!!
I KNOW I KEEP ASKING YOU THIS.
BUT...AT THE VERY LEAST, PLEASE VISIT QUEEN RAHNA SO THAT SHE CAN SEE YOU---

DON'T LET HIS WORDS GET TO YOU.
I'M SURE DEEP DOWN, LEVIN UNDER-STANDS YOUR POINT.
BUT IT'S JUST LATELY HE SEEMS TO HAVE A LOT ON HIS MIND.
THE VERY REASON I'M HERE IS SO THAT I CAN BE PRINCE LEVIN'S STRENGTH.
I'M... PATHETIC, AREN'T I?
Hey! What do you mean by that!!
Same goes for you too


WHAT'S WITH THAT DEPRESSED LOOK?

Blush
IT'S SO OBVIOUS. YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH LEVIN.
BUT. .IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A HARD TIME DOING THAT.
MS. SYLVIA. .
BUT DON'T YOU JUST USUALLY SHRUG IT OFF AND SAY, "WELL IT'S THE WORDS OF THE PRINCE, I NEED TO ACCEPT IT."
FEELING THE PAINS OF ROYAL DUTIES?
AS FOR ME, I JUST EASILY BRUSH OFF ANYTHING MEAN HE SAYS TO ME.
You don't have much of a chest either!
BUT LEVIN IS THE KIND OF GUY WHO WILL USUALLY APOLOGIZE AFTER SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
AH HA! I KNEW IT! YOU MUST BE JEALOOOOUS!

I'M ENVIOUS OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU
...I'M.
HEEHEE! LET'S DECLARE AN OFFICIAL BATTLE!
HOWEVER, I WON'T YIELD TO YOU!
IF ONLY I COULD JUST INNOCENTLY WALK BY HIS SIDE LIKE YOU DO.
IF ONLY I COULD HAVE BEEN JUST A SIMPLE DANCER WHO HAS NO IDEA OF HER OWN PAST.

AHH
YOUR ONLY WORTH IN THE WORLD IS TO BE A SHOW FOR MEN IN THE RUNDOWN DISTRICTS OF THE CITY. PERFORM DANCES ONLY THE LOWLIEST OF GIRLS WOULD PERFORM.
THE ONLY THOUGHT IN YOUR HEAD IS HOW TO GET YOUR NEXT GOLD. PUT ON CHEAP FLOOZY CLOTHES IN ORDER TO ENTERTAIN YOUR MASTERS
THEN WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A TRY?
HE SAID THAT MY DANCE LOOKED JUST LIKE THAT OF THE WIND SPIRITS, THE SYLPHS...
EVER SINCE I MET LEVIN...
BUT WHO I AM NOW HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT PATHETIC LIFESTYLE...

YOUR DANCING
SHOULD BE SEEN BY LOT MORE PEOPLE. THAT WAY, THEY TOO CAN EXPERIENCE THESE FEELINGS.
WHAT A PERFECTLY FITTING NAME.
NO WAY YOUR NAME IS "SYLVIA"?
I WILL NEVER...
...EVER HAND LEVIN OVER TO A PERSON LIKE YOU!!
MS. SYLVIA!

WHAT KIND OF PERSON AM I?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ON DUTY AT SAILANE WHY ARE YOU IN THE CAPITAL!?
SIS-TER..
..if they find you
YOU'LL BE PUNISHED DEPENDING ON THE EXCUSE YOU GIVE, YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
FURY!?

!?

WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW...?
PLEASE TE... ME
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT I'VE FAILED AT EVERY-THING
I'M WORTH-LESS
FURY

KING AZMUL STILL HASN'T SENT THE REPLY WE HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR.
DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE'VE DISPATCHED SO MANY ENVOYS TO HIM ALREADY.

FURTHER-MORE.

WITH DUKE ALVIS, WHO IS A SUPPORTER OF THE PRINCE, MARRYING THE PRINCESS, THE INFLUENCE OF THE COUP D'ETAT FACTION MAY WEAKEN...

THE BLOODLINE OF THE BARHARA ROYAL FAMILY WON'T END WITH THE KING AFTER ALL!

NOT ONLY THAT, THE PRINCESS IS TO BE WED TO DUKE ALVIS!

MY THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD BE SAYING

HA HA ....

AH, PARDON ME.

IT PAINS ME TO SAY IT BUT IT APPEARS THAT WE WON'T BE GRANTED AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING.

I SEE. .

BUT PLEASE DON'T GET DISCOURAGED.

FOR NOW . THAT'S ALL WE CAN DO HOPE WE CAN'T BE IMPATIENT

THINGS ARE PROGRESSING JUST THE WAY WE HAD HOPED THEY WOULD.

BUT, I DO HAVE SOME GOOD NEWS.

THE PRINCE'S DAUGHTER!?

YES. APPARENTLY THEY FOUND THE HOLY SYMBOL OF NARGA ON HER, THE SAME ONE THAT THE KING HAS.

THEY MANAGED TO FIND PRINCE KURT'S LOST DAUGHTER.

SNEAK
...
!!
"I BELIEVE IN YOUR ABILITY TO PROTECT THEM!"
"IT ACTUALLY WASN'T YOUR OWN CAPABILITIES YOU UNDERESTIMATED, IT WAS THE PEOPLE OF SILESIA'S."

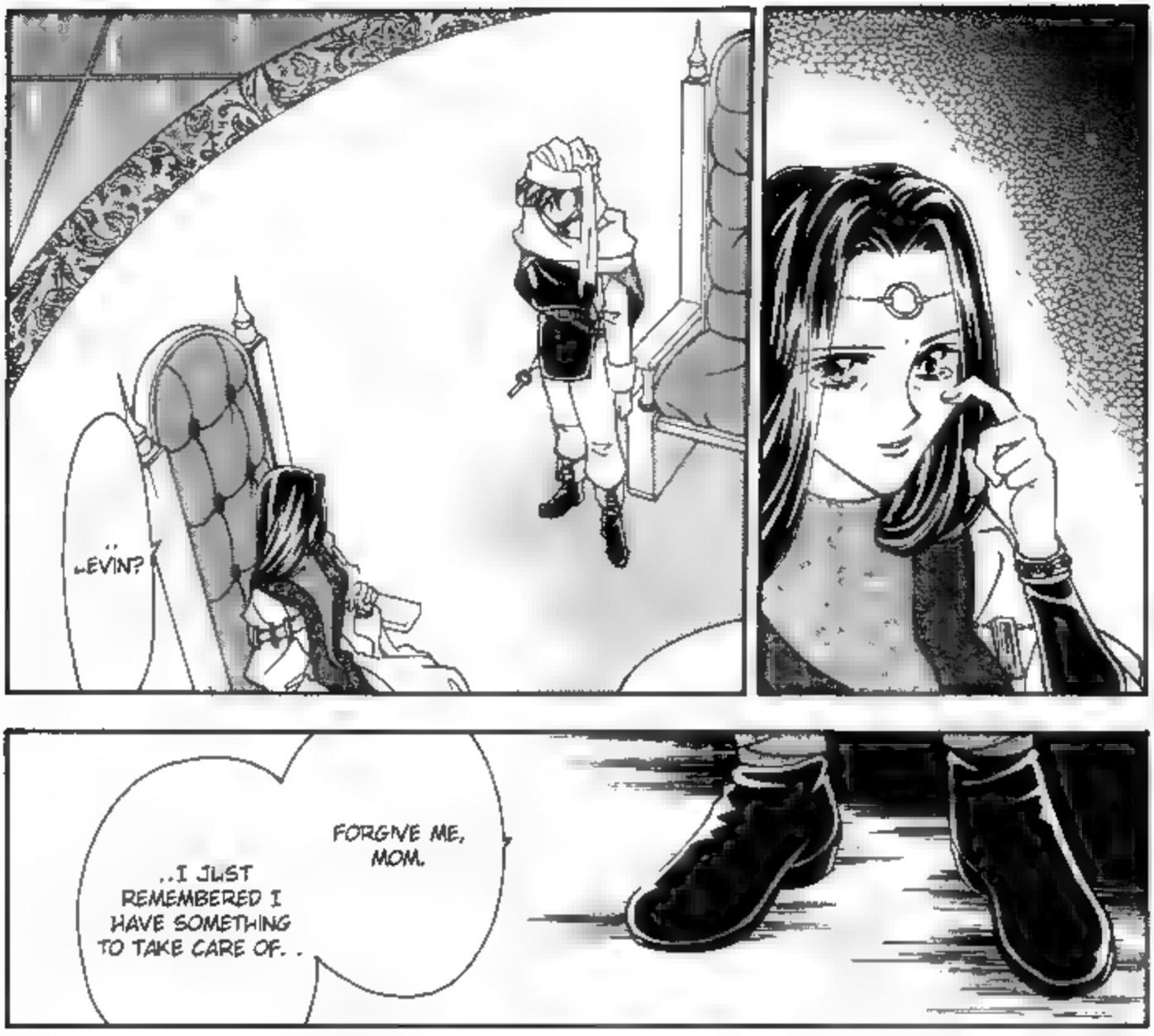
Ahhhhhh!
MA-MA-MA-MA-MA-MAHNYA!!
Why!?
SORRY TO DIS-APPOINT YOU!
HEY! IT'S YOU, SYLVIA? ISN'T IT!?
CUT IT OU--
SIGH. TRY AGAIN. I THOUGHT YOU WOULD AT LEAST KNOW THIS, SEEING AS HOW YOU MANAGED TO FIND ME.
THESE LOCATIONS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE THE PLACES WHERE I AM LEAST LIKELY TO MEET A WOMAN WHO HAS REJECTED ME IN THE PAST...
GULP
UH...
Do you know how long we've been waiting?
SINCE YOU NEVER CAME TO THE CAPITAL, PRINCE, WE HAD TO COME TO YOU! ♡
Is that so?
Smile
Smile
QUEEN RAHNA IS...
AREN'T YOUR FAVORITE LOCATIONS THE PLACES WHERE YOU CAN BEST FEEL THE WIND?
...BUT STILL, I'M IMPRESSED YOU KNEW I WOULD BE HERE.

Arrrgh!
She's toying with me!
Hahahaha!
WHY IS A CHILD TRYING TO ACT SO HIGH AND MIGHTY?
THAT'S THE LINE SHE USED TO TURN ME DOWN!
THAT'S RIGHT!
Superficially polite
Da
Da
It totally ruined me!
UNLESS...
YOU ARE ABLE TO SHOW ME THAT YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF FILIAL PIETY! GO ON! SHOW ME!
U-WA-WAAAAH! WAIT JUST A MINUTE! MANH-YAAAAAA!!
THE KIND OF BEHAVIOR YOU EXHIBIT IS WHAT THEY CALL CHILDISH!!
SFX: POW POW POW POW POW POW

LONG TIME NO SEE, MOM...
....
SFX:: HEYA
...YOU REALLY DID BRING HIM HERE.
YES. I TAKE ALL MY DUTIES VERY SERIOUSLY
WHAT THE HE... HAP-PENED?
... DON'T ASK!!

sigh
.....
.....
HM.
I-I KNOW!!
THI...THIS IS KIND OF AWKWARD ...

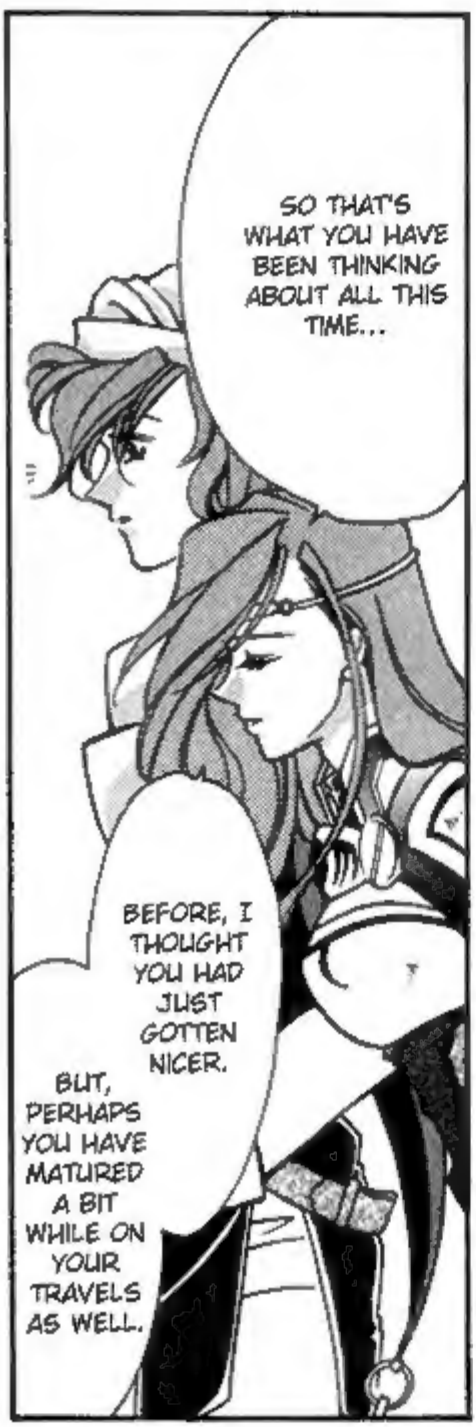
S-SHALL I RUB YOUR SHOULDER?
AS THE QUEEN, IF YOU HAVE YOUR SHOULDERS RUBBED YOUR FORTUNE WILL INCREASE!!
GIGGLE
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
I THOUGHT I WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU A GOOD SCOLDING...


..
LEVIN?
FORGIVE ME, MOM.
..I JUST REMEMBERED I HAVE SOMETHING TO TAKE CARE OF. .
QUEEN RAHNA, LET ME.
MAHNYA ...
SWOOSH
EH... LEVIN!?

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
WHAT YOU DID JUST NOW, EVEN QUEEN RAHNA WAS...
PRINCE!!
PRINCE!, STOP RIGHT THERE!!
BELOW HER EYES...I COULD SEE WRINKLES.
.....
YOU MISUNDER-STAND ME.
EVEN IF YOU'RE JUST JOKING, I WILL NOT ALLOW THAT TO GO UNPUN-ISHED!
WHAT DID YOU SAY!? NOT ONLY IS SHE YOUR MOTHER, BUT SHE IS ALSO A LADY...

MOM SHOULDN'T HAVE...
REACHED THE AGE WHERE SHE SHOULD BE SHOWING SUCH WRINKLES...
WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED BACK IN THIS COUNTRY,
I SAW THE STATE OF THINGS AND THOUGHT THAT NOTHING HAD CHANGED SINCE I LEFT...
THERE WASN'T A WORRY IN MY HEAD.
BUT I'VE MET MANY PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN SUFFERING THIS WHOLE TIME I WAS GONE...
AND MOM WAS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE...
AND WHEN I SAW THE WRINKLES ON HER FACE JUST NOW, I FEEL LIKE I HAD CAUSED THOSE WRINKLES TO APPEAR...I COULDN'T BEAR TO LOOK AT THEM.
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THE BEST WAY TO SOLVE SILESIA'S PROBLEMS!!
YET, THE ONLY SOLUTION I COULD COME UP WITH WAS TO RUN AWAY.
BUT I NEVER REALIZED THE CHOICE I MADE WAS THE WRONG ONE.
I HAD ALWAYS... ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT I DID MAKE THE WRONG DECISION, BUT I WAS NEVER ABLE TO ADMIT IT...

TO BE HONEST, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I SHOULD DO NOW...
EVEN SIGURD SCOLDED ME.
AND I LASHED OUT AT FURY.


SO THAT'S WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT ALL THIS TIME...
BEFORE, I THOUGHT YOU HAD JUST GOTTEN NICER.
BUT, PERHAPS YOU HAVE MATURED A BIT WHILE ON YOUR TRAVELS AS WELL.

FURY SAID THE EXACT SAME THING TO ME...

HOW ABOUT YOU AND I GO ON A LITTLE DATE?
...OKAY.

COMMENT

INFORMATION

HOLSETYSCANS:

TRANSLATION: TOMOYO
CLEANING: LIGHTSNAKE
TYPESETTING: TOMOYO
SCANNING: AQUANTIS
PROOFREADER: TRIMURTI
MINOR CORRECTIONS/QC: AQUANTIS, VINCENTASM

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